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...brokeshire Education Committee.

INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL MEDICINE
10, PARKS ROAD, OXFORD

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER

FOR THE

YEAR 1945.

PICKFORD & SONS, PRINTERS, PENARTH.

INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL MEDICINE
10, PARKS ROAD, OXFORD

COUNTY OF PEMBROKE.

PEMBROKESHIRE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

To the Chairman and Members of the Education Committee.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my Annual Report on the work of the School Medical Service in the County for the Year ended December, 1945.

All the services embraced in the School Medical Scheme have been well maintained.

Some increase in administration and clerical work has arisen from the taking over of Pembroke Borough Education Medical arrangements. At the moment Dental and Medical work are carried out by the part-time staff previously employed by the Pembroke Authority. With the appointment of whole time Assistant Medical Officers and the arrival of an additional Dentist the work will eventually be carried out by them.

I have pleasure in again recording my appreciation of the help and co-operation of the Committee, the Director of Education and all members of the Staff.

I am,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H. MIDDLETON,
School Medical Officer.

GENERAL INFORMATION.

STAFF.

STAFF OF THE SCHOOL MEDICAL DEPARTMENT, 1945.

Chief School Medical Officer (who is also County Medical Officer):
H. MIDDLETON, M.C., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Assistant School Medical Officer (who is also Assistant County Medical Officer for Maternity and Child Welfare):
DOROTHY M. REES, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Assistant School Medical Officer (Part-time):
EVAN J. JONES, L.M.S.S.A.

School Dental Officers: GEORGE F. URWIN, L.D.S.
D. H. W. HARDING (Part-time).

Orthopædic Surgeon:
NATHAN ROCYN JONES, M.D., F.R.C.S.

Surgeons: THE STAFFS OF THE VARIOUS HOSPITALS.

Chief School Nurse (who is also County Superintendent of Nurses):
A. R. CALVIN THOMAS (State Registered Nurse and Certified Midwife).

Assistant School Nurse (who is also County Health Visitor and Orthopædic Nurse):
E. J. JAMES (State Registered Nurse and Certified Midwife).

Assistant School Nurse: E. MERRIMAN (State Registered Nurse and Certified Midwife.

School Nurses: 50 PART-TIME DISTRICT NURSES.

Chief Clerk: W. J. AUSTIN.

HEADQUARTERS.

COUNTY HEALTH OFFICES, 23, HILL STREET, HAVERFORDWEST.

Minor Ailment Clinics:—

School Clinic, 23, Hill Street, Haverfordwest.
Eastgate House Clinic, Narberth.
David Pettit Nursing Home, Milford Haven.
Council School, Fishguard.
Kensington Road, Neyland.
Beaufort House, Victoria Street, Tenby.
School Clinic, Monkton, Pembroke.
School Clinic, Pembroke Street, Pembroke Dock.

Dental Clinic: Prendergast School House, Haverfordwest.

GENERAL INFORMATION (Continued).

Area of County (Statutory Acres)	393,003
Average Number of Elementary Children on Roll	9,763
Average Number of Secondary School Pupils on Roll ...	2,685
Number of School Departments in County—Elementary ...	136
Number of Secondary Schools	8

PEMBROKESHIRE SOCIETY FOR THE CARE OF CRIPPLES.

Chairman: Mrs. SALMOND, O.B.E., "Craig-y-Mor," Saundersfoot.

Hon. Secretary: Miss NANCY THOMAS, J.P., "Craig-y-mor," Saundersfoot.

Orthopædic Clinic:
COUNTY HOSPITAL ANNEXE, HAVERFORDWEST.

TUBERCULOSIS CLINICS.

(Attended by the Tuberculosis Officer of the Welsh National Memorial Association).

MEMORIAL CLINIC, COUNTY HOSPITAL ANNEXE, HAVERFORDWEST.

DAVID PETTIT NURSING HOME, MILFORD HAVEN.

EASTGATE HOUSE CLINIC, NARBERTH.

COTTAGE HOSPITAL, TENBY.

WOODBINE HOUSE HOSPITAL, PEMBROKE.

MANOR HOUSE, MAIN STREET, FISHGUARD.

DR. ELLIOTT'S SURGERY, ST. DAVID'S.

DR. GIBBIN'S SURGERY, WHITLAND.

MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, CARDIGAN.

EDUCATION ACT, 1944.—This Act imposes on parents the obligation to present for examination any child in attendance at a Maintained School (with a £5 penalty for failure to do so).

TREATMENT.—Treatment previously provided for Elementary Schools is now extended to include Secondary Schools, and treatment is free.

HANDICAPPED CHILDREN.—It is now the duty of the Local Education Authority to ascertain and provide special education for all handicapped children over two years of age. Previously this provision concerned children over seven years of age.

Conferences between Local Authorities have been held to consider the method of carrying out the various recommendations made in the provision of Special Schools, and it seems probable that Authorities will combine to form units capable of making provision for such schools in various areas.

MEDICAL, DENTAL AND CLEANLINESS INSPECTIONS.

Medical Inspection of pupils is carried out in age groups. Preliminary notice is given, and parents are encouraged to be present at the examinations. A complete medical record is made on special cards, details of defects are extracted by the Clerical staff and are entered in the various registers and on following-up cards, which are sent to the School Nurses.

At each Medical Inspection, children found with defects at previous inspections are reviewed and notes made on their cards registering cure or improvement.

The District Nurses are presest at all inspections and are able to supply information about home conditions likely to affect the health of the children.

Inspections for cleanliness are carried out once a month or oftener if necessary by the District Nurses, and reports made on conditions found.

Dental inspections are carried out on the same lines as medical inspections, by the School Dentist; and, in addition, any child noted by the Medical Inspector to be suffering from oral sepsis is specially referred to the Dentist.

PHYSICAL AND MENTAL WELFARE OF SCHOOL CHILDREN.

The physical and mental conditions of the children in this County are well maintained, and the increased provision for School Meals,

which enables a greater number of children to partake of these excellent meals, has had a very good effect on their general physique.

MEDICAL INSPECTION.

The numbers examined were:—

Entrants	1,527
Intermediates	1,198
Leavers	713
Specials	496
Re-Inspections	354
Total	4,288

Of 3,934 children examined at Routine and Special Inspections 413, or 10.5 per cent., were referred for treatment, and 425, or 10.7 per cent. had defects necessitating their being kept under observation. The figures for last year were 16.6 per cent. and 14.40 per cent. respectively.

354 children were re-examined, and of this number 143 were found to be cured and the remainder were referred for further observation and treatment.

FINDINGS OF MEDICAL INSPECTION.

MALNUTRITION.

The number found to be malnourished was 139, as compared with 109 for last year; the percentage being 4.1, against 3.8 for the previous year.

OTHER DEFECTS AND DISEASES.

	Referred for Treatment.	Referred for Observation.
Defective Vision and Squint ...	212	74
External Eye Defects	3	11
Nose and Throat Defects ...	228	209
Ear Diseases and Defective Hearing ...	16	8
Heart and Circulation	—	17
Anaemia	4	7
Tuberculosis	3	1
Orthopaedic and Postural Defects ...	16	26
Enlarged Cervical Glands	7	56
Nervous System	—	3

MEDICAL TREATMENT.

VISUAL DEFECTS.

210 Cases were submitted for refraction and attended the Eye

Clinics held at convenient centres throughout the County.

Three children were referred to Dr. H. E. Quick for special examination on account of some disease of the Eye which affected their vision.

Glasses were prescribed in 157 cases.

EAR, NOSE AND THROAT DEFECTS.

153 children received operative treatment for unhealthy Tonsils and Adenoids; and 10 were treated for other Ear, Nose, and Throat defects.

ORTHOPAEDIC TREATMENT.

As far as can be ascertained, all children with crippling defects are under supervision of the Orthopaedic Nurse, and are seen at their homes and at Clinics.

At the end of the year there were 163 children of school age recorded in the register—in addition there were 60 children under school age. Of these, 78 were new cases (38 of school age and 40 under 5).

These records include cases of varying degrees of deformity.

Particulars of Work Done at the Orthopaedic Clinic.

No. of Clinics held. (whole days).	Number of Cases examined.		Total Attendances	
	Under 5.	Over 5.	Under 5.	Over 5.
8 Clinical. 2 Operational (sessions).	25	38	71	127

In addition to the above examination, the Orthopaedic Specialist carried out 15 manipulations and 5 Operations. 4 Children were put in special plaster.

19 children were X-rayed at the County Hospital, Haverfordwest.

17 children were treated at the Prince of Wales Hospital, Cardiff, and 4 at the County Hospital, Haverfordwest.

ORTHOPAEDIC CASES IN TRAINING.

One boy is attending a course in Bootmaking at Alton, and is now on his third year.

Another boy was admitted to St. Vincent's School, Pinner, for education and training.

One girl has completed her training at a Nursery and has been given a full-time appointment at the Nursery.

Work Done by the Orthopaedic Nurse.

First Visits to Cases.		Re-visits to Cases.		Plasters Renewed and Repaired.	No. of Cases under Remedial Exercises & treatment.
Under 5.	Over 5.	Under 5.	Over 5.		
30	37	152	384	15	55

TUBERCULOSIS.

Treatment is undertaken by the King Edward VII. Welsh National Memorial Association. Surgical cases are sent to Kensington Hospital, St. Brides, and chest cases to the various hospitals under the control of the Association. Outpatient supervision and treatment is provided at the various Tuberculosis Clinics held at convenient Centres throughout the County.

Children Suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

At Certified Special Schools.	At Other Institutions.	Not at Institutions.
1	—	10

Children Suffering from Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

At Certified Special Schools.	At Other Institutions.	Not at Institutions.
6	—	51

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

During the year 33 schools were closed on account of Infectious Diseases. The principal causes were Influenza and Measles. No school was closed for Diphtheria.

School closure is carried out only when such action is likely to stop the spread of infection. If the attendance for a week falls below 60 per cent. covering certificates are issued. During the year 69 such certificates were issued to 38 schools.

The incidence of Diphtheria in this County, as elsewhere in the country, has shown a marked decrease owing to immunization.

IMMUNIZATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA.

The work of Immunization has been continued by the District Medical Officer during the year, and approximately 90 per cent. of the children between the ages of 5-15 have been treated.

Everything possible has been done to obtain the consent of parents to the immunization of their children.

The School Nurses have been instructed to persist in their efforts to persuade indifferent and refractory parents to have their children immunized.

The total number of children immunized in the County during the year was:—

1-5 years of age — 969 5-15 years of age — 262.

Since parents are now being encouraged to have their children immunized shortly before the child's first birthday, it is anticipated in future that very few school children will need treatment.

PROVISION OF SCHOOL MEALS AND MILK.

Out of 153 Elementary and Secondary schools in the County, 139 are served by Canteens and are provided with meals up to their full requirements.

A Central Kitchen built by the Ministry of Works for 1,000 children in the Haverfordwest Urban Area, has been completed, but is unusable owing to lack of gas pressure from the Municipal Service. A similar Central Kitchen is nearing completion at Milford Haven. Plans are in hand for the provision of a Kitchen and Dining Room for the two Secondary Schools at Haverfordwest. Plans are being discussed for the improvement of the School Meals Service in the Pembroke Borough.

The Authority has also two other Central Kitchens, one at Tenby County School and one at Johnston, which is on loan from the Ministry of Food.

Elementary.

Approximate number of children having Meals	...	4,520
Approximate number of children having Milk	...	5,200

Secondary.

Approximate number of pupils having Meals	...	1,280
Approximate number of pupils having Milk	...	940

DENTAL DEFECTS.

The School Dental Officer examined 6,043 children, 2,081 were referred for treatment and 1,201 weer treated.

BLIND, DEAF, EDUCATIONALLY SUB-NORMAL AND EPILEPTIC CHILDREN.

BLIND.—One boy left Worcester College for the Blind at the end of the summer term and was admitted to the Royal Normal College for the Blind for a Commercial Course. One boy is at Dr. Eichollz School of Massage. Three girls and one boy are at Bridgend School for the Blind.

EDUCATIONALLY SUB-NORMAL CHILDREN.

Four children attend Elementary Schools and nine are at home.

DEAF.—Six children attend Certified Schools for the Deaf and one attends an Elementary School.

EPILEPTICS.—10 Epileptic children are reported.

FOLLOWING-UP

The system of following-up defective children has been carried out on the same lines as in previous years.

Summary of Work Undertaken by School Nurses.

Attendances at Inspections	136
Visits to Schools re Cleanliness	939
Following-up Visits to Homes re Cleanliness ...	368
Following-up Visits to Homes re Physical Defects ...	266
Attendances at Dental Clinics	334
Attendances at Minor Ailments Clinic	1,053

Minor Ailments and Skin Diseases.

Tables below show work of School Nurses.

MINOR AILMENTS.

Defect.	Treated by Nurse.	Treated by Parents under supervision of Nurse	Total.	No. of cases cured.
Ringworm—Head	13	12	25	13
Ringworm—Body	25	26	51	31
Scabies	55	64	119	96
Impetigo	273	138	411	312
Minor Injuries	449	36	485	389
Other Skin Diseases	61	24	85	52
Ear Diseases	38	7	45	22
External Eye Disease	36	12	48	24
Miscellaneous	607	221	828	672
TOTAL	1557	540	2097	1611

UNCLEANLINESS.

II.—UNCLEANLINESS.

Number of visits to Schools.	Total number of Children examined at Schools.	Number of individual children found unclean	Number of children cleansed.		Number of Children found with the following defects.									
			By Parents under supervision of Nurse	By Nurse.	Head.				Body.				Dirty and Unsatisfactory Clothing.
					Dirty.	Pediculi.	Nits.		Dirty.	Pediculi.	Flea-bitten.		
1,102	59,019	434	316	31	19	97	375		13	61	21		47

SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

326 pupils were examined at Routine examinations, and of this number 24, or 7.4 per cent., were referred for treatment, and 21, or 6.4 per cent., were referred for observation,

27 pupils were also specially examined, and 16 were found to be defective.

DEFECTIVE VISION.

18 were referred for treatment and 1 referred for further observation.

MALNUTRITION.

1 was referred for further observation.

NOSE AND THROAT DEFECTS.

6 cases were referred for treatment, and 6 for further observation.

HEART AND CIRCULATION.

7 pupils were found with functional heart defects.

TUBERCULOSIS.

1 Case was referred for further observation.

DEFORMITIES.

4 pupils were referred for further review.

STATISTICAL TABLES.

TABLE 1.

MEDICAL INSPECTION OF CHILDREN ATTENDING PUBLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

A.—Routine Inspections.

Number of Inspections in the prescribed Groups:—

Entrants	1527
Second Age Group	1198
Third Age Group	713
Total	3438

B.—Other Inspections.

Number of special inspection and re-inspections ... 850

TABLE II.

Classification of the Nutrition of Children inspected during the Year in the Routine Age Groups.

Age Groups.	Number of Children inspected	A. Excellent.		B. Normal.		C. Slightly subnormal.		D. Bad.	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Entrants	1527	132	8.4	1342	88.0	52	3.0	1	0.6
Second Age Group	1198	116	9.6	1018	85.0	62	5.3	2	.1
Third Age Group	713	159	22.3	529	74.2	25	3.5		
TOTAL	3438	407	11.8	2889	84.0	139	4.1	3	1

TABLE III.

TREATMENT TABLES.

Group I.—MINOR AILMENTS (excluding Uncleanliness).

Total number of Defects treated or under treatment during the year under the Authority's Scheme 2,097

Group II.—DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT.

Disease or Defect. (1)	No. of Defects dealt with. Under the Authority's Scheme. (2)
Errors of Refraction (including squint) ...	202
Other defect or disease of the eyes (excluding those recorded in Group I.) ...	—
Total	202
No. of Children for whom Spectacles were:—	
(a) Prescribed	151
(b) Obtained	151

Group III.—TREATMENT OF DEFECTS OF NOSE AND THROAT.

Number of Defects.

Operative Treatment.	Other Forms of Treatment.	Total.
153	10	163

TABLE IV.

DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT.

(1)	Number of children inspected by Dentist	6043
(2)	Number found to require treatment ...	2081
(3)	Number actually treated	1201
(4)	Attendances made by children for treatment	1357
(5)	Half-days devoted to:—	
	Inspection	290
	Treatment	339
(6)	Fillings:—	
	Permanent Teeth	225
	Temporary Teeth	30
	Total	255
(7)	Extractions:—	
	Permanent Teeth	522
	Temporary Teeth	1409
	Total	1931
(8)	Administration of General Anaesthetics for Extractions	39
(9)	Other Operations:—	
	Permanent Teeth	158
	Temporary Teeth	20
	Total	178

TABLE V.

UNCLEANLINESS AND VERMINOUS CONDITIONS.

(i)	Average number of visits per school made during the year by School Nurses	8
(ii)	Total number of examinations of children in the School by School Nurses	59019
(iii)	Number of individual children found unclean ...	434
(iv)	Number of children cleanesd under Section 87 (2) and (3) of the Education Act, 1921	322
(v)	Number of cases in which legal proceedings were taken:—	
	(a) Under the Education Act, 1921 ...	—
	(b) Under the School Attendance Bye-laws ...	—

TABLE VI.

BLIND AND DEAF CHILDREN.

Number totally or almost totally blind and deaf children who are not at the present time receiving education suitable for their special needs.

	At a Public Elementary School	At an Institution other than a Special School.	At no School or Institution.
Blind Children ...	—	—	—
Deaf Children ...	1	—	—

SECONDARY.

Number of Code Group Inspections	326
Entrants	287
Second Age Group	37
Third Age Group	2
Number of Special Inspections	27
Grand Total	353

TREATMENT TABLE.

Defective Vision and Squint (excluding Minor Eye Defects treated as Minor Ailments — Group 1).

Disease or Defect. (1)	Number of Defects dealt with. Under the Authority's Scheme. (2)	Otherwise. (3)	Total. (4)
Errors of Refraction	18	—	18
Other Defects or Disease of the Eyes ...	—	—	—
Total	18	—	18
No. of Pupils for whom Spectacles were:			
(a) Prescribed	6	—	6
(b) Obtained	6	—	6

Classification of the Nutrition of Pupils inspected during the year in the Routine Age Groups.

Age Groups.	Number of Pupils inspected	A. Excellent.		B. Normal.		C. Slightly subnormal.		D. Bad.	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Entrants	287	28	9.8	256	89.2	3	1.0	—	—
Intermediates	37	—	—	37	100.0	—	—	—	—
Leavers	2	—	—	2	100.0	—	—	—	—
Total	326	28	8.6	295	90.5	3	.9	—	—